

INTRODUCTION

The mineral resource assessment of the Medfra quadrangle is part of a multidisciplinary study carried out in 1978-1979 by the U.S. Geological Survey under its Alaska Mineral Resources Assessment Program (AMRP). The investigation was designed to fill gaps in the knowledge of mineral resource potential of the Medfra quadrangle by an integrated study of geological, geochemical, and geophysical methods. The mineral resource investigations were of a reconnaissance nature; bedrock sampling and surface sampling were done at sites, and stream sediment, moss, and pan concentrate sampling to 515 sites.

Background data for this assessment are contained in a series of previously open-filed reports: a regional scale (1:250,000) geological map (Fatt et al., 1978); a regional scale (1:250,000) geophysical map (Fatt et al., 1980); a regional scale (1:250,000) soil chemistry map (Fatt et al., 1980), a report on the chemistry, mineralogy, and K-Ar ages of igneous and metamorphic rocks (Fatt et al., 1980); an interpretation of aeromagnetic data (Fatt et al. and others, 1980); a series of geochemical analyses of stream sediment samples (Fatt et al., 1980); a series of soil chemistry analyses (Fatt et al., 1980); and a series of six reports on the distribution and abundance of various chemical elements in surface soils and stream sediments (Fatt et al., 1980). Brief reports have also been open-filed describing a small-scale magnetite deposit in the upper Sulukas River (Fatt et al. and Patterson, 1980) and feldspar-rich mica-schist in the Shisho Mountains (Miller and others, 1980).

This report consists of three sheets:

Sheet 1. General geologic and showing known mineral deposits and occurrences, and areas designated as favorable for the occurrence of undiscovered mineral deposits.

Sheet 2. Tabled descriptions.

Table 1. Known mines and prospects

Table 2. Occurrences of sulfides and other indicators of mineralization

Table 3. Geochimical data¹ for mineral occurrences listed in Table 2--Continued

Table 2.--Description of occurrences of sulfides and other indicators of mineralization in the Medfra quadrangle

Map No. Field No. Location (Township & Range) Identified Mineralization¹ Description

36	77P-182	T. 20 S., R. 15 E.	Pyrite	Volcanic graywacke hornfels containing disseminated pyrite.
37	78P-14	T. 20 S., R. 17 E.	Undetermined sulfides	Altered rhöilite tuff with minor disseminated sulfides.
38	79P-38, 39	T. 19 S., R. 20 E.	Hematite, clinbarite?	Porphyritic rhyolite, brecciated and hydrothermally altered. Hematite occurs both as fine botryoidal masses in cavities of rock, and as dark red and black veins. Possible black, oxidized clinbarite in veins.
39	78P-5b	T. 22 S., R. 15 E.	Pyrite	Colorado Creek placer mining area; bedrock is greenstone and chlorite schist.
40	78P-2	T. 22 S., R. 15 E.	Pyrite	Colorado Creek placer mining area; bedrock is argillite containing pyrite.
41	79M-32	T. 22 S., R. 15 E.	Pyrite	Felsite dike cutting hornfels. Dike contains hematite flecks after pyrite and iron oxide stain.
42	79M-22	T. 23 S., R. 15 E.	Pyrite	Hornfels containing disseminated pyrite and coated with iron oxide stain.
43	79P-113f	T. 24 S., R. 17 E.	Tourmaline	Small tourmaline veins in volcanoclastic hornfels.
44	78P-21a, 20b, 20c	T. 24 S., R. 17 E.	Tourmaline	Tourmaline-bearing dikes. Ms 21a - feldspar-tourmaline dike cutting porphyritic andesite. Ms 20a, b - felsite dike containing abundant tourmaline.
104	79P-50	T. 23 S., R. 22 E.	Tourmaline, pyrite	Tourmaline-bearing, altered dacite porphyry with iron oxide spots after pyrite.
105	79M-90	T. 23 S., R. 22 E.	Pyrite, tourmaline?	Oxidized quartz porphyry containing pyrite and possible disseminated tourmaline.
106	79P-48	T. 24 S., R. 22 E.	Pyrite	Altered rhöilite with abundant pyrite and iron oxide stain.
107	79P-161	T. 25 S., R. 22 E.	Coal	Very thin coaly layers in altered gravels on Jones Creek.
108	78P-79a, 79b	T. 28 S., R. 21 E.	Pyrite	Pyrite-bearing sedimentary rocks. Ms 79a - sandstone containing abundant disseminated pyrite, Ms 79b - manganese-rich chert nodules containing veinlets of pyrite.
109	79P-51a, 51b	T. 25 S., R. 23 E.	---	Two small gossans in carbonate rocks.
110	79P-52a	T. 25 S., R. 23 E.	---	Altered zone along contact between carbonate rocks and gabbro.
111	78P-115a	T. 24 S., R. 23 E.	---	Iron oxide gossans in carbonate rocks.
112	76P-69	T. 24 S., R. 23 E.	---	Brecciated iron oxide stained shaly limestone.
113	79P-103d	T. 23 S., R. 25 E.	---	Gossan in limestone and dolomite.
114	79P-105b	T. 23 S., R. 25 E.	Hematite	Hematite conglomerate near limestone contact contains hematite in veinlets and in float.
115	79P-33	T. 27 S., R. 26 E.	Unidentified sulfides	Gabbro containing unidentified sulfides.
116	78P-42	T. 24 S., R. 17 E.	Pyrite	Plagioclase, biotite, hornblende porphyry containing disseminated pyrite.
117	75P-39	T. 24 S., R. 17 E.	Coal	Floar of coal from sandstone bedrock.
118	78P-197	T. 18 S., R. 26 E.	Tourmaline	Rhyolite dome containing abundant blue tourmaline.
119	78P-21a	T. 23 S., R. 16 E.	Pyrite	Fine-grained sandstone hornfels containing pyrite grains up to 4 mm.
120	79M-61	T. 23 S., R. 17 E.	Unidentified sulfides	Sulfides present in a coarse-grained pyroclastic containing numerous small quartz veins.
121	78P-20a, 20b, 20c	T. 23 S., R. 17 E.	Galenite	Galenite-bearing quartz vein in sheared argillite hornfels. Ms 20a - argillite and quartz, Ms 20b - quartz vein with galena, 20c - quartz vein, 20b - argillite hornfels. Ms 66 - quartz vein, 66a - brecciated sandstone.
122	78P-43	T. 21 S., R. 30 E.	Pyrite	Gabbro dome containing minor disseminated pyrite.
123	79P-67a, 67b	T. 22 S., R. 30 E.	Tourmaline	Tourmaline-bearing sedimentary rocks. Ms 67a - 67b - limonite-stained quartzofeldspathic sandstone containing disseminated tourmaline, Ms 67b - sanded tourmaline hornfels.
124	78P-61	T. 27 S., R. 19 E.	Tourmaline	Andesite porphyry containing disseminated tourmaline.
125	78P-102e	T. 23 S., R. 20 E.	Pyrrophyte	Calcareous, quartz-hornfels containing disseminated pyrrhotite.
126	78P-85g, 85g	T. 23 S., R. 20 E.	Pyrite	Pyrite-bearing hornfels. Ms 85g - calc-silicate hornfels containing pyrite, Ms 85g - noncalcareous, sandy hornfels with abundant pyrite.
127	78P-82a	T. 21 S., R. 22 E.	Hematite	Quartz, muscovite schist containing abundant specular hematite.
128	78P-110	T. 21 S., R. 22 E.	Hematite	Quartzofeldspathic rock containing specular hematite.
129	78P-18	T. 21 S., R. 22 E.	Hematite	Banded, quartz-rich metavolcanic rock containing fine specular hematite.
130	78P-85	T. 21 S., R. 23 E.	Sulfides?	Hornfels with veins and streaks of granitic rock. Some quartz veinlets with possible sulfides.
131	78P-63b	T. 20 S., R. 25 E.	---	Massive limestone with ilmenite stain.
132	78P-50a	T. 21 S., R. 25 E.	Magnetite	Narrow band of contact metamorphosed limestone with iron oxide and copper stain.
133	78P-50b	T. 21 S., R. 25 E.	Magnetite	Magnetite body (see Throckmorton and Patton, 1978).
134	78P-50c	T. 21 S., R. 25 E.	---	Sample from skarn at granite-limestone contact near magnetite deposit.
135	78P-38	N	Granite	Granite containing thin tourmaline veins.
136	78P-38a	N	Granite	Granite containing abundant tourmaline veins.
137	78P-39	N	Granite	Granite containing abundant tourmaline veins.
138	78P-40	N	Granite	Granite containing tourmaline in local concentrations.
139	78P-42a	T. 20 S., R. 23 E.	Hematite	Quartz-mica schist containing specular hematite.
140	78P-71a	T. 20 S., R. 23 E.	Hematite	Banded rhöilite metavolcanic with abundant specular hematite.
141	78P-71b	T. 22 S., R. 24 E.	---	Shale with ilmenite stain.
142	78P-45a	T. 22 S., R. 26 E.	---	Small fine-grained intrusive body containing weathered pyrite cubes.
143	78P-45b	T. 22 S., R. 26 E.	Pyrite	Pyrite cubes in highly micaceous, dark-gray silstone and shale.
144	78P-146	T. 21 S., R. 26 E.	Pyrite	Altered dacite porphyry containing iron oxide spots after pyrite.
145	78P-66	T. 21 S., R. 24 E.	Pyrite	Location approximate.
146	78P-46c	T. 23 S., R. 30 E.	Tourmaline	Highly altered granite containing tourmaline.
147	78P-48c	T. 23 S., R. 29 E.	Pyrite	Phyllite with iron oxide spots after pyrite.
148	78P-47b	T. 23 S., R. 30 E.	Tourmaline	Recrystallized chert with thin layers of tourmaline; near gabbro contact.
149	78P-137	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
150	78P-140	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
151	78P-143	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
152	78P-144	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
153	78P-145	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
154	78P-146	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
155	78P-147	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
156	78P-148	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
157	78P-149	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
158	78P-150	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
159	78P-151	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
160	78P-152	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
161	78P-153	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
162	78P-154	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
163	78P-155	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
164	78P-156	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
165	78P-157	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
166	78P-158	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
167	78P-159	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
168	78P-160	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
169	78P-161	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
170	78P-162	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
171	78P-163	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
172	78P-164	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
173	78P-165	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
174	78P-166	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
175	78P-167	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
176	78P-168	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
177	78P-169	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
178	78P-170	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
179	78P-171	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
180	78P-172	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
181	78P-173	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
182	78P-174	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
183	78P-175	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
184	78P-176	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
185	78P-177	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
186	78P-178	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
187	78P-179	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
188	78P-180	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
189	78P-181	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
190	78P-182	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
191	78P-183	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
192	78P-184	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
193	78P-185	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
194	78P-186	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
195	78P-187	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
196	78P-188	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
197	78P-189	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
198	78P-190	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
199	78P-191	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
200	78P-192	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
201	78P-193	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
202	78P-194	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
203	78P-195	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
204	78P-196	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
205	78P-197	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
206	78P-198	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
207	78P-199	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
208	78P-200	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
209	78P-201	N	No chemical data	No chemical data.
210	78P-202</			